

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support

September 27, 2003

Paul Moravito, Board President
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Coastal Conservancy
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Moravito:

Re: Coastal Conservancy Project Number 03-053.

As a resident of Occidental for the last 27 years and as a parent with a second child in the Harmony Union School District, I am writing you in enthusiastic support of the Salmon Creek School proposal for an environmental education program, requesting \$300,000 in Phase 1 from the Coastal Conservancy.

Last year, I facilitated the school district's strategic planning process that was designed to be the first ever community wide, participatory process. Included in the process were the four stakeholder groups of students, teachers, board of trustees and the parents/community at large. Resounding agreement was reached around several strategic priorities, and the overarching priority identified was integrated environmental education as the thread to weave together the other priorities. Environmental curriculum builds upon the strengths of the school site and our positive experience gained during the last few years. Building upon our successes to date, and expanding the environmental curriculum in some exciting new ways would make the Salmon Creek School attractive to the general public and be responsive to community aspirations.

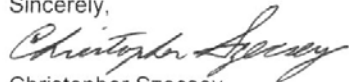
Our school plan is to develop a specialized and unique magnet program to educate our students, our community and the general public about our critical common resources of water, soil and forests. This goal is especially important at this time when continual pressure is on our community to convert such resources for short term commercial gain.

Receipt of the requested funds would be a clear endorsement of our community and educational goals. Specifically the funds would be used for an observation deck over Salmon Creek, a greenhouse and nursery to propagate and grow restoration native plants for the Salmon Creek Watershed and their neighboring watersheds, an outdoor classroom, and an interpretive nature trail, the design of a "Green" building, restoration work, and a feasibility study to determine if a rails to trails from Occidental to Freestone can be built. We plan to start the design of the building and deck right away, and hopefully pursue funding for the building in Phase 2.

We welcome a partnership with the Coastal Conservancy, as well as other committed community and district partners, for our proposed model program and educational center, and hope you will give favorable consideration of our proposal.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Christopher Szcsegy
Community member and parent (Telephone #: 874-2230)

✓ cc: Richard Retecki
Jane McDonough, Superintendent

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support



SONOMA
COUNTY
REGIONAL
PARKS

JIM R. ANGELO
DIRECTOR

October 30, 2003

California Coastal Conservancy
Attn: Richard Retecki
11th Floor
1330 Broadway
Oakland, CA 94612

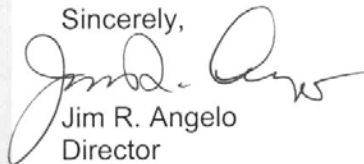
RE: Watershed and Hazardous Conditions Signs

Dear California Coastal Conservancy Board Members:

The Sonoma County Regional Parks Department supports the design, production, and placement of hazardous river condition signs along the Russian River.

The Regional Parks Department operates 6 parks along the Russian River. The Russian River Guide (brochure) was developed in partnership with the California Coastal Conservancy, and has undergone 2 printings. This past summer the Russian River Guide was distributed in its English and Spanish version to river users at Steelhead Beach, Healdsburg Veteran's Memorial Beach, and Sunset Beach. This brochure was effective at warning river users of the inherent dangers along the Russian River, and educating river users about access points along the river. We look forward to expanding the informational signage along the Russian River to provide this information to a greater number of river users. The number of visitors has steadily increased at our Russian River parks, as well as the number of water-related accidents and drowning. We see an urgent need to alert river users of potentially hazardous river conditions present along most areas of the Russian River.

Sincerely,



Jim R. Angelo
Director

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Suite 120A
Santa Rosa
CA 95403
Tel: 707 565-2041
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www.sonoma-county.org/parks

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